

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 44, line 4, as follows:

A2  
Subsequently, each sintered nickel substrate having the intermediate layer thus formed thereon was immersed in the aqueous solution of 5 wt% cobalt nitrate and then in a 25 % NaOH aqueous solution, after which the sintered nickel substrate wetted with the NaOH aqueous solution was heat-treated in the atmosphere at a temperature of 80°C for one hour, to form a second intermediate layer 4a composed of a hydroxide of cobalt on the above-mentioned intermediate layer 4 (see Fig. 3). After that, each nickel electrode for an alkaline storage battery was produced in the same manner as that in the above-mentioned examples D1 to D11.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 45, immediately below the table, as follows:

A3  
As apparent from the results, each of the alkaline storage batteries in the examples G1 to G7 employing the nickel electrode for an alkaline storage battery wherein the intermediate layer composed of hydroxide of calcium or the like was formed on the sintered nickel substrate, and the second intermediate layer 4a composed of the hydroxide of cobalt was then laminated on the intermediate layer 4 was further improved in the charge characteristics under high temperature conditions, as compared with each of the alkaline storage batteries in the examples F2 to F7 employing the nickel electrode for an alkaline storage battery wherein the intermediate layer composed of the mixture of the hydroxide of calcium or the like and the hydroxide of cobalt was formed.